Dance in Guruvayur Temple

†1118. SHRI SHREEGOPAL VYAS :
SHRI BALAVANT Alias BAL APTE:

Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that some Jehadi order has been issued against Rubiyan for performing dance in Guruvayur Temple; and

(b) whether members of the family have demanded help from the Central and State Government?

THE MINISTER OF CULTURE (SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI): (a) and (b) According to available information no application was received by Guruvayur Devaswom from Rubiyan for any dance performance in Guruvayur Temple. As such the question of any Jehadi order and members of the Rubiyan family demanding help from State/Central Government does not arise.

Discovery of old city Shisupalgarh in Orissa

1119. SHRI MAHENDRA MOHAN: Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whther it is a fact that a 2500 year old city namely Shisupalgarh has been discovered in Orissa;

(b) if so, the details of the discovery;

(c) how many new sites have been discovered so far by the Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) after independence;

(d) what are the details thereof and how their conservation is being managed by the ASI; and

(e) how many sites dating back to epic period and Vedic era are there in Uttar Pradesh?

THE MINISTER OF CULTURE (SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI):(a) and (b) The recent excavation carried out at an early historic period site of Shisupalgarh by Deccan College, Pune suggests that its earliest date may go back to 2500 years ago. ASI has excavated the site in 1948. Shisupalgarh, located about 4 km east of Bhubaneswar, is also identified as Tosali of Asokan (3rd century B.C.) edicts and Kalinganagara of Kharavela's (2nd century B.C.) incription.

(c) and (d) A list of major city sites excavated since independence is given in this statement (*See* below). The details of new sites discovered by the ASI are reported in its publication 'Indian Archaeology—A Review'. The ASI undertakes conservation of excavated sites after their protection under the Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Sites & Remains Act, 1958.

(e) No such classifications has been done.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.